

THE HIGH SCHOOL ECHO

EDITED BY PUPILS OF THE PENSACOLA HIGH SCHOOL.

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VISITOR'S DAY.

Plans have been made in the public schools for an innovation which is expected will be a great improvement over the custom of former years.

In the past, it has been the habit of the teachers to prepare a program for the closing day of school with which to entertain the parents and friends of their pupils.

Though long practiced, the scheme never proved satisfactory and was last year dispensed with.

The discontinuance of the exercises, however, did not mean that exhibitions were to be done away with altogether; consequently the teachers have decided upon an entirely new program for this year.

In place of declamations and songs which are connected with the course only in the intermediate grades, and which very likely are the labor of but the last two weeks of school we are authorized by Mr. Locke to state that this year an exhibition will be made of the actual work accomplished during the year as shown by copy books, note-books, written examinations, art work, the physical and chemical laboratory, work in biology etc. The papers will be placed in the various rooms and will be open for inspection to all visitors.

Besides being a more accurate showing of school work, the execution of the plan will be followed by many benefits to the pupil in the formation of his character; for the careful conscientious preparation through a long period of work to be exhibited cannot result otherwise.

NEWS NOTES.

In addition to those mentioned, in our last issue, the Class '07 contains Ada White and Trane Sublett, who entered last week.

Chandler Yonge is among the new pupils in grade 10.

The football team is practicing hard for the game during Christmas week. The members are very proud of their new suits, which are very becoming.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we announce that John Lewis, assistant city clerk will join us again at school on Monday. He has resigned his position and expects to remain in the High School until he graduates.

OUR LIBRARY.

One of the most highly prized additions to the Pensacola High School is its library. It is needless, of course, to speak of the usefulness and necessity of this department of a school.

First we shall mention the great increase in the number of volumes of our library and the growing interest manifested in it. The increase in the number of volumes of 1905 over that of 1904 is about two hundred and fifty, making the total number of volumes at the present time, about eight hundred and fifty. This makes our library one of the largest, if not the largest of any school in the city.

Some of the most valuable property of this department of our school, has been bought by the pupils of the different grades, and we owe much, indeed, to their successful efforts. Several means, which required labor and interest have been employed by the pupils in raising funds for the library, (such as boat excursions, bazaars etc.)

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This shows great interest of the pupils in the upbuilding of our school and their loyalty towards it. Such a spirit on the part of our pupils means a great future for the school.

In discussing the books of our library which is the point of most interest to our readers it is best perhaps, to divide them into reading divisions, the reference books and the books for home reading. In the first are several complete sets of encyclopedias among which may be mentioned the "Columbian Encyclopedia," the "American Encyclopedia," and the "People's Encyclopedia." For the first set, which contains the largest number of volumes, we are indebted to Rev. J. R. Bicknell, one who has shown a keen interest in all of our schools.

These books, which on so many occasions delighted the pupils with his entertaining bear stories. Next in order may be mentioned a set by Mr. J. Emmet Wolfe, who will be remembered for the interest he has shown in our school. These volumes form a useful addition to our reference department. Some of our most numerous and much needed volumes are those on history, among which may be mentioned a set entitled "Six Thousand Years of History," "Macaulay's History," "Green's History," "Historic Characters and Famous Events," and "Memoirs of Florida." The latter were presented by Rev. P. H. Whaley. There are also many books of fiction embracing the works of Thackeray, Kingsley, Lytton, Dickens and Elliot. We have also two complete sets of Shakespeare.

In speaking of the circulating department, these books intended both to interest and instruct the reader, we wish only to mention of their character and usefulness. Nothing but the most healthful and interesting, yet instructive, books are found in this department. The time is well spent, indeed, when a pupil avails himself of these books, along with his studies, as a relief to his mind in the hard study of text books. Naturally this department comprises the greater number of volumes, which is about six hundred.

For the further improvement of our library this year, far excursions will be given by the pupils of the P. H. S. together with other entertainments. It is sincerely hoped by all the members of our school and by those interested in the upbuilding of this institution that these entertainments will be patronized even better this year than before and that the proper encouragement will be given by all to these plans for the advancement of this school as a public institution.

Let each one do his part, members of the school as well as others. It is a duty we owe to posterity as well as to ourselves.

IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Prophecy of Class '08.
As I sit dreaming, dreaming under the very eyes of a certain majestic-looking pedagogue, the familiar scenes fade away, the prosaic school routine vanishes in air, and I seem to see far into the future—fifty years hence.

The time-honored walls of the old P. H. S., where we received our early training, and where we escaped without serious injury, though trembling in every limb, from one dare-devil frame, that fell into the tangled meshes of another, equally serious and terrifying, is the scene of an interesting reunion, held for the sake of "old lang syne."

We are almost dazzled by the beauty of the flowers, the glorious strains of orchestral music, and the great throng of students. But who is this imposing personage, her silvery curls softening a forehead of intellectual breadth, her head awaying, in the music style to keep time with the air. She is the center of the orchestra. On nearer approach it is found that the features, expression, a word everything which make up personality, are those of one of our distinguished classmates. Since we last met she has played before the crowned heads of Europe. Rich and poor, young and old have gone wild over that glorious music. Is it any wonder that the head of Florence Marston is held far higher than those of her aged companions?

On entering the assembly there is a glimpse of a black, clerical looking coat and silk hat, beneath which a pair of eyes, piercing, though dim with age, gleam with the light of religious enthusiasm—the result of twenty years discourse on the immortality of the soul. A moment later I feel the hearty hand clasp and hear the cordial greeting of Robert Stout, D. D., who in former days was known as "saintly Robert." Surely the promises of his youth have been fulfilled.

The next figure which comes limping on the scene, butterfly net in the right hand, a magnifying glass and jar of various insects, which, proving to be cannibals, are constantly devouring each other, on the left of who though his characteristics are the same, we scarcely recognize (because of the various painful-looking scars which he bears, for with true zealotry, he has given up his body to the cause of science) in this learned zoologist the Charles Overman of our school days.

As my eye wanders down the long line of distinguished guests, I am brought face to face with Dr. Queenin Borrass, whose skill and dexterity in extracting splinters has saved me many a painful hour. Alice Dow, the Henderson, Fannie May Holden and Etta Riley are next seen frantically waving their arms in vain attempt to scare up voters for woman suffrage. Interested spectators of this scene are Velma Maura, the stump speaker, who remembering her own reign of terror, is at this time waging war against making the study of algebra compulsory in the public school. Emily Whaley whose fame as an artist is world wide, Ethel Broughton, president of the swellest woman's club in America, and Margaret Campbell, whose rapid fire of conversation and ever-ready flow of words have be-

come advantageous in making her one of the most popular writers of short stories in America.

That portly old gentleman over there, with the roughish gleam in his eye is Allen Lee White, who as if in atonement for past mistakes and misdeeds, now occupies the chair of Latin, and shows an ever ready sympathy for those who find the path of knowledge (at least in the pronunciation of the language of old Rome) by no means literary.

Two sweet faced old ladies are engaged in a lively conversation, filling the pauses with peals of laughter, and on closer observation I recognize Annie Moore Harvey, the far famed fighter and Florence Haley, the glazier of the room, who both having been occupied with matrimonial pursuits for years, have returned to their alma mater, in order to vary the monotony of this existence with a spice of frivolity and tales of by gone days.

Through the midst of this assemblage of venerable Methuselahs, there walks with military tread the figure of Capt. William Eggart, a marine corps officer of repon. Four years at Annapolis transformed the taciturn youth into a brilliant conversationalist and though he has broken or at least cracked many hearts, has led, and according to present indications will continue to lead a life of single blessedness.

Chandler Yonge, for many years a famous matinee idol, but now enjoying peace in the capacity of grandfather, and his former leading lady, Majorie Holmes are the last to arrive. The latter after laying aside her crutches, readjusting her wig, treats the assembly with an amusing toast and then lapses into the silence of sweet memories of her girlhood days.

Pausing for a moment to take in the glory of the scene, my dream is interrupted by a boyish voice, pouring over a Latin translation (which strange to say refuses to translate) and muttering, "Dead language, dead as a door nail."

A bell rings, there is a noise of passing footsteps, boardward bound, there to engage in various algebraic complications, and I am roused from this day-dream to find, not the glorious future, but the bare unexciting present with its myriad of troubles.

But, Stonewall Jackson has said that we may be whatever we resolve to be, and if perseverance, pluck and true nobility of character stand then as they now do, for all that is best and purest in human nature, the close of the year 1955 will bring a realization of even greater fame to this, the Class of '08.

A Nursery Scheme.

A very beguiling nursery planned by a professional lately had the walls covered with a stout, plain green material which was both dust and germ proof. The dado was of a darker shade than the walls above and was bounded at the top by two shelves running all around the room, not too high for the children to keep their books and toys upon. Just under the shelf a frieze of bright hued Mother Goose prints, framed, were set into the wall all the way around as a flush to the dado. These prints had been varnished with white shellac, making them waterproof. The floor was covered with a green filling, with a green rug in the center. All the woodwork and furniture were white enamel, and there were no curtains or upholstery in the room.

And It's So Simple Too.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor, who has been called a great beauty on both sides of the Atlantic, gives this as the simple method by which she preserves her good looks: Live simply, take adequate exercise, eat rationally, act with deliberation and get plenty of rest. Lillian Russell recently gave the same prescription. Mrs. Leslie Carter has been giving it for three or four years, and Patti and Bernhardt have been handing it out for twenty years.



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Does Florida Need Settlers?

J. H. Stephens, in Jacksonville Sun.

Florida has an area of 58,680 square miles, and 528,542 population in 1900, or 9 1/2 persons to the square mile, while Massachusetts has 337 to each square mile of area; New York has 148; Pennsylvania has 139; Ohio has 101; Indiana 68 and Illinois 34; but, as these states have conditions unlike those prevailing in Florida, with its 9 1/2 persons to the square mile, we will select for comparison the state of Michigan, quite similar in all respects except in climate and we find that this state has 41 people to the square mile to our 9 1/2.

In view of these facts does Florida need immigration? To equal in population per square mile with Michigan we must have a total of 2,500,000, and it would appear that we must inaugurate and put in operation some plan by which we may secure about two million people.

What Florida has to offer to immigrants will be discussed in another paper. The question now is, does Florida need immigration, and why?

The increased population indicated would give us good schools, good roads, good neighbors, beautiful landscape, and all that goes to make life worth living.

Contact with this new element would broaden our minds and make us all more useful.

New enterprises would spring up all over the state, and our wonderful resources now undeveloped would be made to contribute to the wealth of the whole country. Taxation for public utilities would be reduced just in proportion to our increase of population, and in about the same proportion would intellectual cultivation be stimulated.

Virtue and intelligence go hand in hand. We would, therefore, have a higher moral ideal, with the general growth in material things.

That immediate effort should be made, and in the most systematic manner, to increase our population, I think all will agree, and if I can elicit one thought or suggestion as to the best method to obtain this result, and see it adopted, my mission will be fruitful and afford ample cause for gratification.

Think of the many thousand acres of land now lying idle in this state which with intelligent direction could be converted into profitable stock farms; of other thousands of acres which could be converted into truck farms, the most profitable in the world, perhaps; of other thousands of acres which can be converted into citrus fruit farms, all of which now yield nothing to the state nor owner, and then answer my primary question does Florida need immigration?

With an addition of two million to our population, which we can and must have, we would have a ship canal across our peninsula. We would realize millions from our fisheries, where we now get thousands. Our entire seacoast would be teeming with well-cultivated oyster beds, and still the development of our phosphate beds would be in its incipency.

With this increase in population would come many wholesome laws and proper legal machinery for promoting the prosperity and happiness of our people. Honest debts could be collected and every proper security

offered for capital. Our geological formation would be correctly understood, with all the benefits such information would give; we would not be groping in the dark as now, but would know the most available resources to be developed, and that it was safe to make the necessary investment.

With these added millions would come those seeking salubrious climatic conditions, and we could well afford to invite all such for the sake of humanity. The results would be the upbuilding of elementary institutions which could benefit the entire country, and which would naturally receive substantial aid from every state in the Union, and could be made an active factor in humanizing and liberalizing our people.

I am in a measure endowed with those intuitive qualities which enable us to judge humanity, and this same principle enables one to see something of the grandeur of our fair Florida under the conditions above outlined.

I would that I could impress every man, woman and child with the importance of this subject—impress them so that they would be willing to make sacrifices to attain it, so that those in position and with means might be induced to give of their money, time and intelligence toward perfecting a system which will result in adding materially to the population of our state.

The effort must be unanimous, it must be enthusiastic; with these conditions pertaining there will be no failure, and I do not believe there will be one voice lifted against the proposition that Florida does need immigration.

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